

HOUSE RESOLUTION 95
By Harmon

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Alexis Rollins upon
winning the 2003 Chattanooga Times Free
Press Regional Spelling Bee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those students who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as champions of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Alexis Rollins, who was named the winner of the 2003 Chattanooga Times Free Press Regional Spelling Bee; and

WHEREAS, a sixth grader at Tracy City Elementary School, Alexis advanced through nine rounds in competition with eighty-nine contestants from schools in Southeast Tennessee and North Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Alexis won the competition by outlasting a most talented contender, runner-up and defending champion, Kirstin Early; and

WHEREAS, Alexis emerged victorious after correctly spelling "wisenboden," a dark soil from meadows that is rich in organic material; and

WHEREAS, she will now advance to the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., to vie for the national spelling bee title; and

WHEREAS, Alexis has won a number of awards and competitions, including the Tracy City Elementary School and Grundy County Spelling Bees for 2001, 2002, and 2003; the Grundy County Academic League Championship in 2001 and 2002; and the top score for Grundy County in the 2001 Creative Writing Essay Competition; and

WHEREAS, Alexis has excelled in the Chattanooga Regional Spelling Bee for the past two years, placing seventh in 2001, and earning second place in 2002; and

WHEREAS, she is also active in 4-H, for which she was the District Public Speaking Finalist in 2001, 2002, and 2003; District Cloverbowl Finalist in 2001 and 2002; a Clothing & Sewing Participant; and the 2002 Grundy County Junior Member of the Year; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her spelling hobby, Alexis enjoys tutoring first and second graders, reading, and cheerleading; she also writes stories and is a pen pal of a student in Oslo, Norway, and an American soldier serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, she also loves to travel, having been to London, Hawaii, the Bahamas, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the French West Indies, California, and Mexico; and

WHEREAS, she is a member of the Tracy City Elementary School basketball team, and she also plays basketball in the Grundy County Summer program; and

WHEREAS, Alexis participates in the Children's Miracle Network, St. Jude Radiothons, and other related activities; she also collects toys for needy children at Christmas, and has started collections for her fellow students who have become sick or are in need of assistance; and

WHEREAS, because of this tremendous love for children, she plans to be a pediatrician at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Alexis is most grateful for the love and support of her parents, Barry and Rhonda Rollins, and her grandparents, Buddy and Teresa Wiggins and Charles and Norma Rollins; and

WHEREAS, Alexis Rollins epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Alexis Rollins for her hard work and dedication; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we congratulate Alexis Rollins upon winning the 2003 Chattanooga Times Free Press Regional Spelling Bee, wish her the best of luck at the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.